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**Interagency
Intelligence
Memorandum**

**Soviet Activities in Selected
Middle East/African Countries**

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**SOVIET ACTIVITIES IN SELECTED
MIDDLE EAST/AFRICAN COUNTRIES**
January 1, 1976 - July 1, 1976

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**Soviet Activities in Selected
Middle East/African Countries
January 1, 1976 - July 1, 1976**

The Soviet position in the Middle East took another turn for the worse during May and June. The Lebanese crisis rapidly evolved into the most pressing problem confronting Soviet objectives in the region. In early June, Premier Kosygin was greeted upon his arrival in Damascus with the news that Syrian troops had entered the Lebanese fray in force—on the side of the Christians. The spectacle of its allies, the Syrians and the Palestinians, battling each other with Soviet-supplied arms has clearly disturbed Moscow.

Soviet plans for using Syria and the Palestinians to isolate Egypt and thwart US step-by-step diplomacy have been disrupted by the Syrian-PLO conflict, and the USSR is fearful of the long-term implications of this situation. Recently Moscow has more openly supported the Palestinians. It has not only helped others get arms and ammunition to the hard-pressed Palestinian forces in Lebanon, but has also tried to persuade Syria to cease and desist in Lebanon.

There is some evidence that the Soviets have threatened to curtail or even end the military supply flow to Syria, but it is still not clear whether the Soviets have cut back, and it remains unlikely that Moscow would resort to more than a slowdown in arms shipments.

Kosygin also found the Baghdad leg of his most recent Middle East visit disheartening. Talks with the Iraqis were occasionally heated, and although a new, substantial arms agreement was apparently reached, serious problems remain unresolved. Syrian-Iraqi tensions, always present, grew worse as Syrian involvement in Lebanon deepened. The Iraqis moved large numbers of troops toward the Syrian border, increasing the danger of hostilities between Iraq and Syria.

Soviet-Egyptian relations remain strained, although Cairo has indicated it hopes for improvement. The Soviets, biding their time, have yet to react decisively to these overtures and may be awaiting more concrete gestures, knowing that the Egyptian military needs spare parts badly.

Soviet relations with Morocco have deteriorated, even though Moscow has not overtly sided with Algeria in the Spanish Sahara dispute. The dispute between Somalia and Ethiopia over the FTAL has thus far produced no clear strains in Moscow's relations with either Mogadiscio or Addis Ababa. Soviet influence in Aden and Sana may be threatened if Saudi Arabia's efforts to improve relations with both countries make headway. There have been recurring reports of an impending arms deal between the USSR and Kuwait. These reports are unconfirmed, occasionally contradictory, but persistent.

EGYPT

A. MILITARY ASSISTANCE

Soviet Aid Agreements (A) and Deliveries (D)
(Million US \$)

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	A	D
1972	250	240
1973	639	565
1974	----	80
1975	----	150
1976, 1st Half	----	----

Military Personnel
in Soviet Union for Training

1972	220
1973	100
1974	----
1975	----
1976, 1st Half	----

Soviet and East European
Military Technicians in Country

1972	5,500
1973	520
1974	200
1975	215
1976, 1st Half	175

B. FACILITIES USED BY SOVIETS

Ports	Use	Major Repair Facilities	Shore Facilities
Alexandria	Denied access since April 1976	Denied	Denied
Mersa Matruh	Denied access since May 1975	NA	NA
Port Said	Denied access since May 1975 (but had not been used since Yom Kippur War)	NA	NA

Territorial Anchorages

Sollum	Denied access since May 1975
Ras al Kanais	Denied access since May 1975

C. DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

Agreements signed (January 1, 1976—July 1, 1976)

April 28 Annual Soviet-Egyptian trade protocol signed.

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Late June New contract for Soviet aid to Inshas nuclear research center signed.



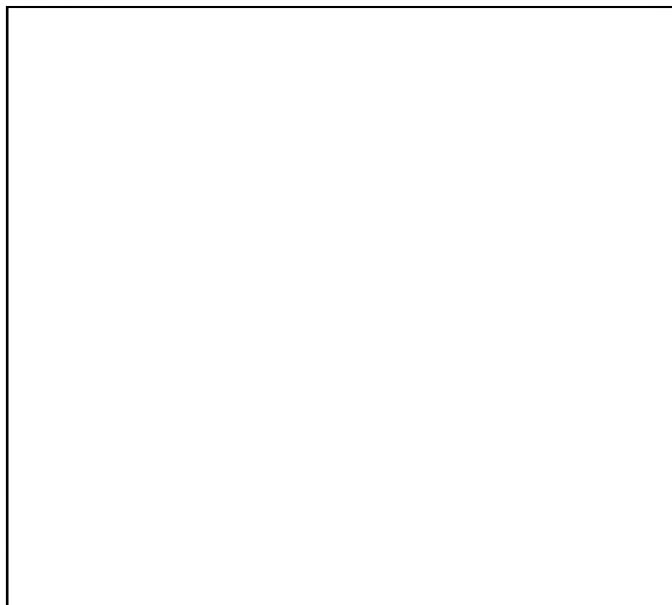
SYRIA

A. MILITARY ASSISTANCE

Soviet Aid Agreements (A) and Deliveries (D)
(Million US \$)

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	A	D
1972	316	152
1973	705	708
1974	523	535
1975	303	190
1976, 1st Half	---	185



Military Personnel
in Soviet Union for Training

1972	530
1973	700
1974	530
1975	300
1976, 1st Half	375

Soviet and East European
Military Technicians in Country

1972	1,140
1973	1,780
1974	2,150
1975	3,050
1976, 1st Half	3,050

B. FACILITIES USED BY SOVIETS

Ports	Use	Major Repair Facilities	Shore Facilities
Tartus	Replenishment of diesel submarines, small warships and intelligence collectors (has received most of the Soviet support ships previously stationed in Alexandria)	NA	NA
Latakia	Replenishment of diesel submarines, minesweepers and intelligence collectors	NA	NA

C. DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

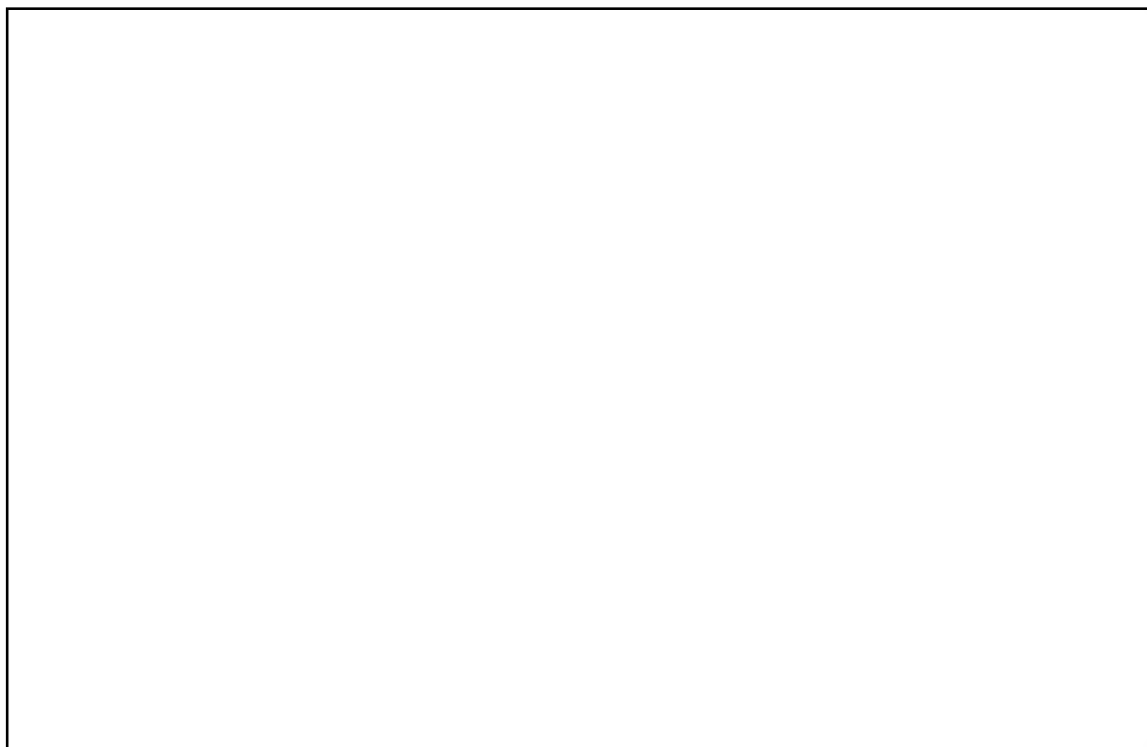
Agreements signed (January 1, 1976—July 1, 1976)

January 24, 1976	5-year trade agreement.
June 2, 1976	Soviet-Syrian protocol for oil industry assistance signed.

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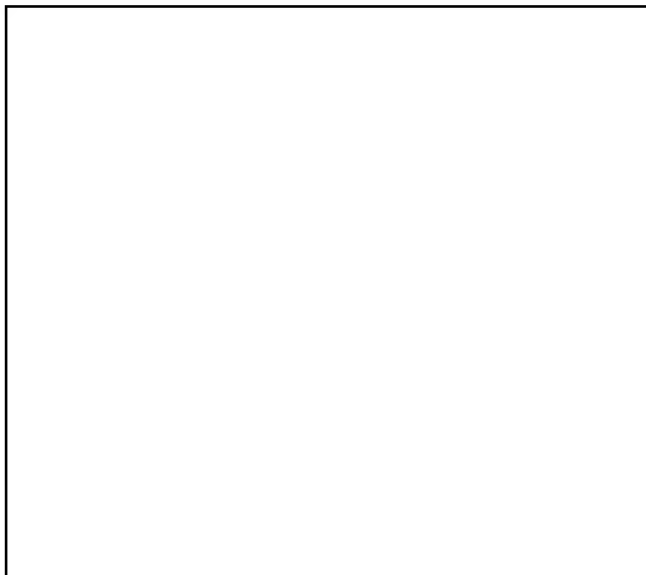
IRAQ

A. MILITARY ASSISTANCE

Soviet Aid Agreements (A) and Deliveries (D)
(Million US \$)

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	A	D
1972	40	80
1973	149	352
1974	648	336
1975	27	254
1976, 1st Half	20	130



Military Personnel
in Soviet Union for Training

1972	145
1973	350
1974	700
1975	250
1976, 1st Half	300

Soviet and East European
Military Technicians in Country

1972	500
1973	735
1974	1,035
1975	1,035
1976, 1st Half	1,200

B. FACILITIES USED BY SOVIETS

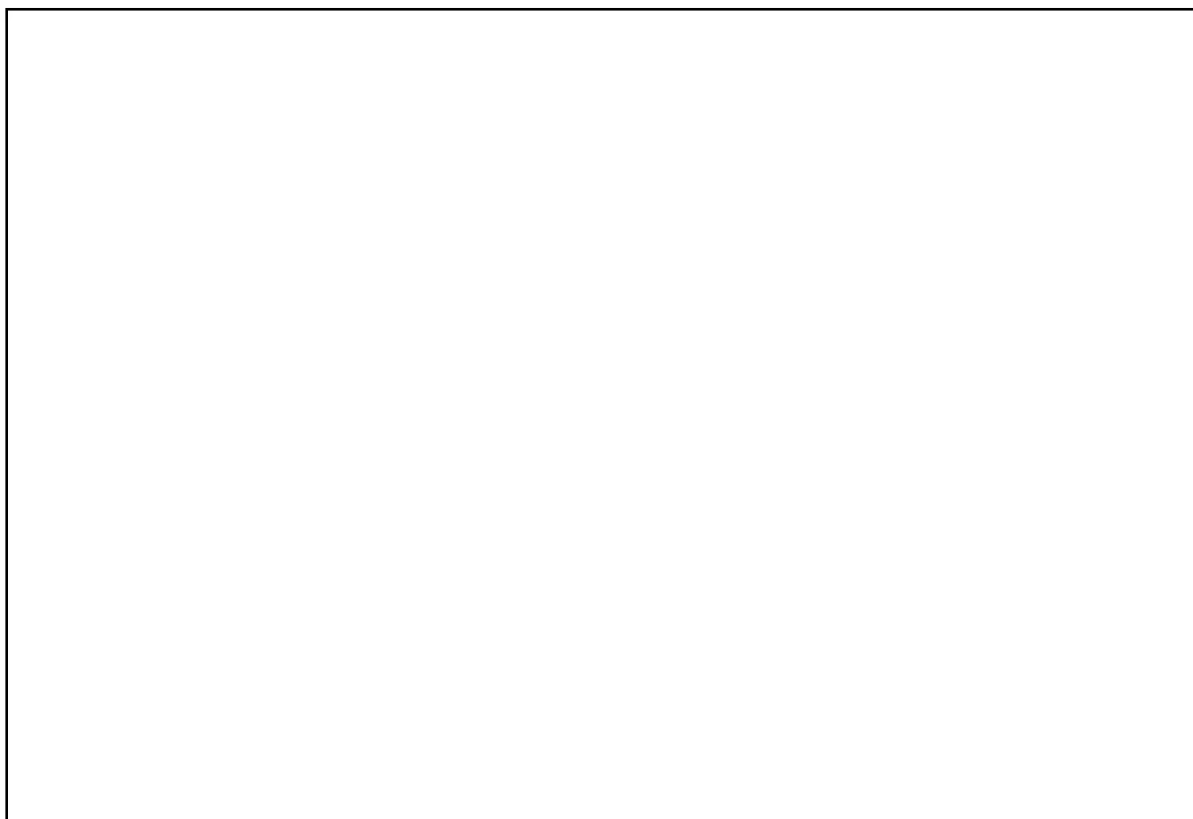
Ports	Use	Major Repair Facilities	Shore Facilities
Umm Qasr	Occasional replenishment of auxiliaries and small warships	NA	NA
Basra	Infrequent replenishment of auxiliaries and small warships	Soviet repair ship occasionally berthed in port, but no access to Iraqi floating dry docks	NA

C. DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

Agreements signed (January 1, 1976—July 1, 1976)

January 7 Soviet-Iraqi trade protocol for 1976.

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LIBYA

A. MILITARY ASSISTANCE

Soviet Aid Agreements (A) and Deliveries (D)
(Million US \$)

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	A	D
1972	30	27
1973	4	24
1974	730	84
1975	---	216
1976, 1st Half	---	120



Military Personnel
in Soviet Union for Training

1972	---
1973	---
1974	300
1975	600
1976, 1st Half	665

Soviet and East European
Military Technicians in Country

1972	20
1973	10
1974	145
1975	345
1976, 1st Half	550

B. FACILITIES USED BY SOVIETS

Ports	Use	Major Repair Facilities	Shore Facilities
None apparently open to Soviets	No port calls since 1970.	NA	NA

Air Operations

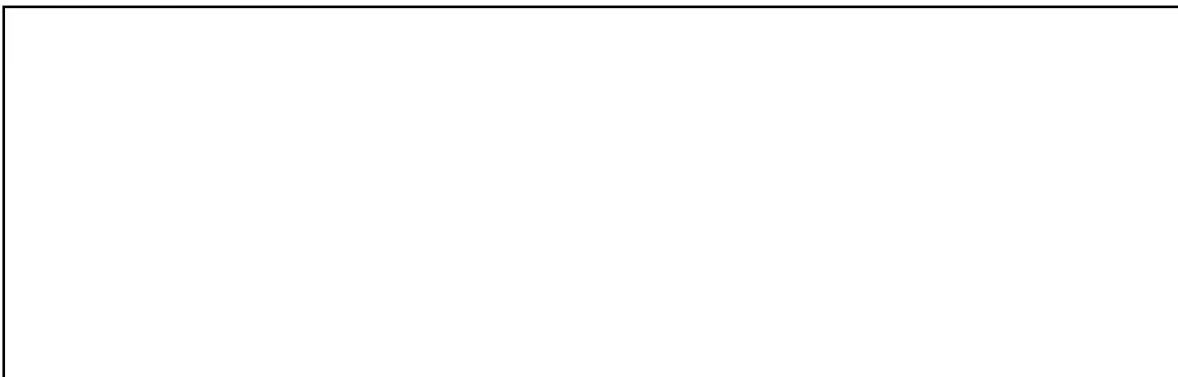
Libyans have put stringent restrictions on Soviet use of Libyan air fields as stopover point for military aircraft.

C. DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

Agreements Signed (January 1, 1976—July 1, 1976)

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None



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IRAN

A. MILITARY ASSISTANCE

Soviet Aid Agreements (A) and Deliveries (D)
(Million US \$)

	A	D
1972	72	82
1973	----	132
1974	250	100
1975	----	15
1976, 1st Half	----	10

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Military Personnel
in Soviet Union for Training

1972	25
1973	15
1974	35
1975	35
1976, 1st Half	35

Soviet and East European
Military Technicians in Country

1972	30
1973	60
1974	75
1975	70
1976, 1st Half	85

B. FACILITIES USED BY SOVIETS

Ports	Use	Major Repair Facilities	Shore Facilities
None apparently open to Soviets	No port calls since 1972.	NA	NA

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C. DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

Agreements signed (January 1, 1976—July 1, 1976)

May 28	Protocol of the Eighth Session of the Permanent Transportation Subcommittee of the Iran-Soviet Permanent Committee on Economic Cooperation signed in Moscow.
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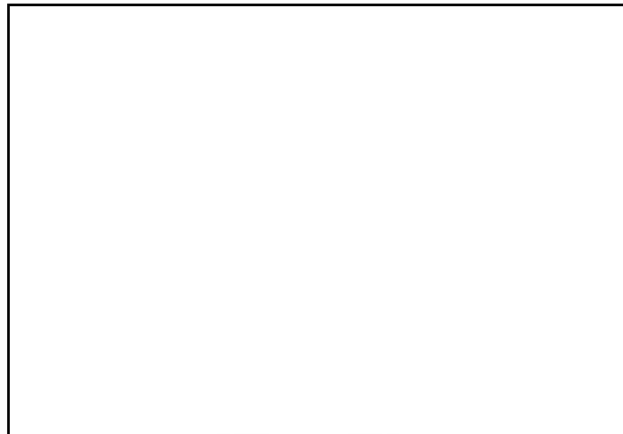
SOMALIA

A. MILITARY ASSISTANCE

Soviet Aid Agreements (A) and Deliveries (D)
(Million US \$)

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	A	D
1972	---	6
1973	---	18
1974	80	43
1975	35	50
1976, 1st Half	---	15



Military Personnel
in Soviet Union for Training

1972	---
1973	---
1974	150
1975	500
1976, 1st Half	500

Soviet and East European
Military Technicians in Country

1972	400
1973	700
1974	1,000
1975	2,000 to 2,500
1976, 1st Half	2,000 to 2,500

B. FACILITIES USED BY SOVIETS

Ports	Use	Major Repair Facilities	Shore Facilities
Berbera	Maintenance and replenishment of warships and submarines; crew rest	Large floating dry dock	Housing com- pound, missile handling and storage, naval communication relay station, airfield under construction, POL storage available but apparently not used by Soviet ships.
Chisimaio	Sporadic port calls	NA	NA

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Airfields at Dafet and Chisimaio could accommodate TU-95 Bear Ds but have not been so used.
Airfield at Berbera, when completed by end of year, could accommodate any size aircraft.

C. DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS**Agreements Signed (January 1, 1976—July 1, 1976)**

None confirmed, but indications are that Soviets agreed to provide additional military hardware to Mogadiscio during July 1975 visit to Moscow of Somali defense chief Samantar and during President Siad's visit earlier this year. 25X1

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ALGERIA

A. MILITARY ASSISTANCE

Soviet Aid Agreements (A) and Deliveries (D)
(Million US \$)

	A	D
1972	----	10
1973	----	5
1974	----	15
1975	500	13
1976, 1st Half	NA	51

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Military Personnel
in Soviet Union for Training

1972	0
1973	0
1974	0
1975	50
1976, 1st Half	110 (60 may be civilians)

Soviet and East European
Military Technicians in Country

1972	0
1973	0
1974	0
1975	650
1976, 1st Half	650

B. FACILITIES USED BY SOVIETS

Ports	Use	Major Repair Facilities	Shore Facilities
Algiers and Annaba	Occasional visits for replenishment	NA	NA

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[Redacted]

C. DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

Agreements signed (January 1, 1976--July 1, 1976)

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January 27 Economic aid accord.

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MOROCCO

A. MILITARY ASSISTANCE

Soviet Aid Agreements (A) and Deliveries (D)
(Million US \$)

	A	D	Equipment Delivered (Major Items)
1972	----	----	
1973	2	2	
1974	25	Negl.	
1975	34	4	
1976, 1st Half	----	----	

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Military Personnel
in Soviet Union for Training

1972	----
1973	----
1974	----
1975	75
1976, 1st Half	75

Soviet and East European
Military Technicians in Country

1972	----
1973	10
1974	----
1975	10
1976, 1st Half	10

B. FACILITIES USED BY SOVIETS

Ports	Use	Major Repair Facilities	Shore Facilities
Tangier	Periodic visits, provisioning	NA	NA

C. DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

Agreements Signed (January 1, 1976—July 1, 1976)

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None

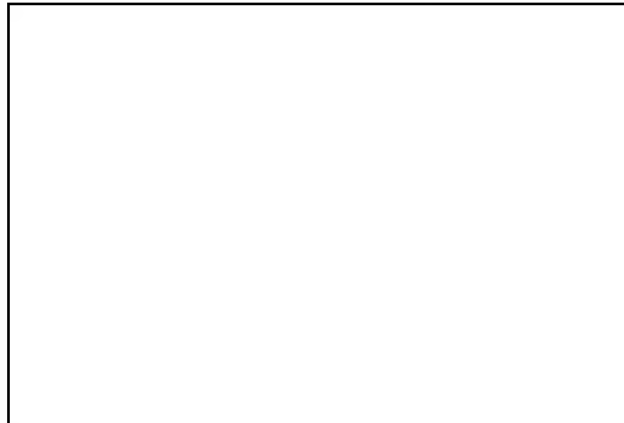
SOUTH YEMEN (PDRY)

A. MILITARY ASSISTANCE

Soviet Aid Agreements (A) and Deliveries (D)
(Million US \$)

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	A	D
1972	20	11
1973	70	30
1974	---	24
1975	20	34
1976, 1st Half	---	17



Military Personnel
in Soviet Union for Training

1972	120
1973	65
1974	180
1975	180
1976, 1st Half	180

Soviet and East European
Military Technicians in Country

1972	210
1973	225
1974	260
1975	260
1976, 1st Half	180

B. PORT FACILITIES USED BY SOVIETS

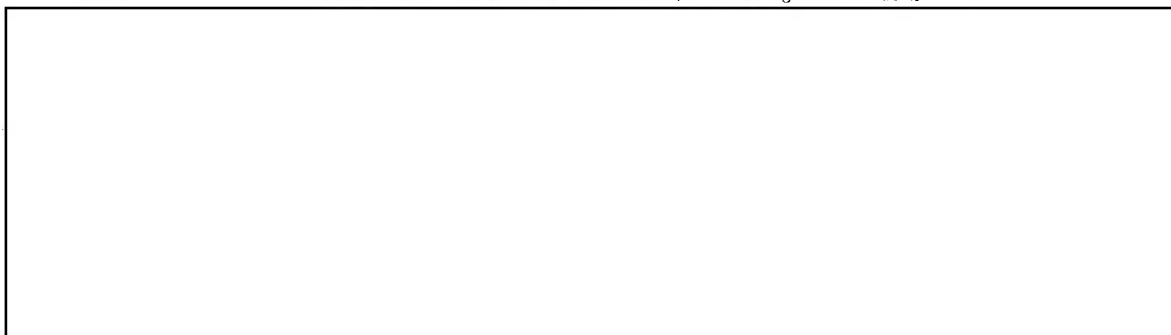
Ports	Use	Major Repair Facilities	Shore Facilities
Aden	Reprovisioning and occa- sional bunkering of ships	NA	NA
Air Operations			
Airfield at Aden	Regularly scheduled military aircraft courier flights, probably carrying mail. Staging field for Soviet flights to India, Somalia, East Africa.		

C. DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

Agreements signed (January 1, 1976—July 1, 1976)

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May 24 Soviet-PDRY Protocol on Party Cooperation signed in Aden.



YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC (SANA)

A. MILITARY ASSISTANCE

Soviet Aid Agreements (A) and Deliveries (D)
(Million US \$)

	A	D
1972	----	Negl.
1973	6	----
1974	----	4
1975	5	3
1976, 1st Half	----	10

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Military Personnel
in Soviet Union for Training

1972	----
1973	15
1974	75
1975	120
1976, 1st Half	120

Soviet and East European
Military Technicians in Country

1972	100
1973	130
1974	120
1975	120
1976, 1st Half	100

B. PORT FACILITIES USED BY SOVIETS

	Use	Major Repair Facilities	Shore Facilities
Hodeida	Occasional port visits	NA	NA

C. DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

Agreements signed (January 1, 1976—July 1, 1976)

None

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